

REMARKS

The Office Action dated December 6, 2006 has been received and carefully noted. The above amendments to the specification and claims, and the following remarks, are submitted as a full and complete response thereto.

Claims 1, 4, and 10-16 are amended to more particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter of the present invention. New claims 17-21 are added. No new matter is added. Claims 1-21 are respectfully submitted for consideration.

The Office Action objected to the specification because of informalities. The specification is amended to correct any known typographical errors. Accordingly, withdrawal of the objection to the specification is respectfully requested.

The Office Action objected to claims 1 and 4 because of informalities. Applicants submit that claim 1 is amended to correct any known typographical error. Further, claim 4 is amended to define “e” as an exponential function. Accordingly, withdrawal of the objection to the claims is respectfully requested.

The Office Action rejected claim 13 under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph as being indefinite. Applicants submit that claim 13 is amended to provide proper antecedent basis for all of the elements recited therein. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph is respectfully requested.

The Office Action rejected claims 1, 10 and 16 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being obvious over US Patent Publication No. 2004/014695 to Astely et al. (Astely ‘695), in view of the publication “MLSE and Spatio-Temporal Interference Rejection combining

with Antenna Arrays” to “Asztely” et al. (Asztely). The Office Action took the position that Astely ‘695 disclosed all of the features of these claims except interference rejection combining to be specifically space-time interference rejection combining. The Office Action asserted that this feature is well-known in the art as evidenced by Asztely.

Applicants respectfully submit that Astely ‘695 is not a valid prior art reference against the present application. Astely ‘695 is a published application that is owned by Nokia, and was filed on March 19, 2002 and published on June 17, 2004. The present application was filed on September 16, 2003. Thus, Astely ‘695 qualifies as prior art only under 35 U.S.C. 102(e). Therefore, according to 35 U.S.C. 103(c), Astely ‘695 is not a valid prior art reference under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over the present application. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) of claims 1, 10, 16 is respectfully requested.

The Office Action objected to claims 2-9 and 11-15 as being dependent from a rejected base claim but would be allowable if rewritten into independent form. Applicants respectfully submit that because claims 2-9 and 11-15 depend from claims 1 and 10, these claims are allowable at least for the same reasons as claims 1 and 10 as well as for the additional features recited in these dependent claims. Accordingly, withdrawal of the objection to claims 2-9 and 11-15 is respectfully requested.

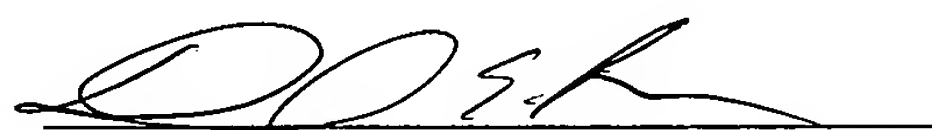
As stated above, new claims 17-21 are added. Applicants respectfully submit that each of claims 17-21 recite features that are neither disclosed nor suggested in any of the cited references.

Applicants respectfully submit that each of claims 1-21 recites features that are neither disclosed nor suggested in any of the cited references. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that each of claims 1-21 be allowed, and this application passed to issue.

If for any reason the Examiner determines that the application is not now in condition for allowance, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner contact, by telephone, the applicants' undersigned attorney at the indicated telephone number to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this application.

In the event this paper is not being timely filed, the applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. Any fees for such an extension together with any additional fees may be charged to Counsel's Deposit Account 50-2222.

Respectfully submitted,



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Enclosures: Additional Claim Fee Transmittal
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